(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The workload of Telecom District, Mau which includes Deoria Revenue District, is not sufficient to justify a separate DET for Deoria.

Telephone Connections From M.P. Quota

1920. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been delay in installation of telephone connections by the department even after the recommendation and confirmation by the hon'ble Members of Parliament, from their quota; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, generally telephone connections against the sanctions issued from the quota of the Hon'ble M.Ps are provided within spcified period of 30 days from the date of issue of sanction orders. However, in some cases delay occurs in implementing such ordes due to technical reasons, such as non-availability of cable pairs, exchange capacity etc.

(b) Provision of these telephone sanctions is being monitored in the Telecom Commission Headqarters and strict instructions are issued, wherever delay is noticed, to the CGMs concerned to make all around efforts to provide telephone connections at the earliest.

[English]

Rural Post Offices

1921. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Post Offices in the country, category wise andState wise;

(b) the average population covered by Post Offices, State wise; and

(c) the number of Post Offices opened during 1995-96, State wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The total number of Post Offices in the Country, category wise and Postal Circle-wise as on date are given in satement-I

(b) and (c): The average population covered by Post Offices, Postal Circle- wise and the number of Post Offices o[ened during 1995-96 Postal Circle-wise are given in the enclosed statement-II.

STATEMENT - I

Details of Post Offices, Category-wise

	Name of State	Head Post Offices (HOs)	Depart-mental Sub Post Offices (DSOs)	Extra Dept. Sub Post Offices (EDSOs)	Extra Deptl. Branch Post Offices (EDBOs)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	104	2361	53	13660	16178
2.	Assam	16	581	36	3185	3818
3.	Bihar	42	1425	127	10195	11789
4.	Delhi	9	410	22	113	554
5.	Gujarat	42	1359	47	7470	8918
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	2	-	32	34
	Daman & Diu	-	6	-	11	17
6.	Haryana	15	452	14	2116	2597
7.	Himachal Pradesh	17	441	18	2272	2748
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	9	240	31	1328	1608
9.	Karnataka	69	1770	301	7659	9799
10.	Kerala	51	1445	527	3013	5036
	Lakshadweep	-	6	3	1	10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	52	1363	98	9720	11233

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Maharashtra	61	2087	129	10026	12303
	Goa	2	102	3	141	248
13.	North East					
	Arunachal Pradesh	1	44	-	238	283
	Manipur	1	48	-	622	671
	Meghalaya	2	61	2	416	481
	Mizoram	1	38	4	340	383
	Nagaland	1	38	-	260	299
	Tripura	3	79	14	605	701
14.	Orissa	35	1160	195	6682	8072
15.	Punjab	21	756	10	3057	3844
	Chandigarh	1	43	1	7	52
16.	Rajasthan	55	1390	103	8752	10300
17.	Tamil Nadu	92	2738	224	9017	12071
	Pondicherry	1	36	-	59	96
18.	Uttar Pradesh	86	2840	458	16700	20084
19.	West Bengal	44	1623	344	6470	8481
	Sikkim	1	17	7	171	196
	Andaman & Nicobar	1	25	7	64	97
	TOTAL	835	24986	2778	124402	153001

STATEMENT- II

Statement showing number of Post Offices during 1995-96 and Average Population served

S.No.	Name of Circle	Post Offices sanctioned during 1995-96		Average population served per Post Office
		Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (EDBOs)	Departmental sub-post Offices (DSOs)	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	3	4103
2.	Assam	-	1	5887
3.	Bihar	-	2	7338
4.	Delhi	-	2	17035
5.	Gujarat	-	1	14643
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	3049
	Daman & Diu	-	-	5975
6.	Haryana	1	2	6361
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-	2	1896
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	2	3780
9.	Karnataka	-	3	9805
10.	Kerala	-	14.	5789
	Lakshadweep	-	-	5173
11.	Madhya Pradesh	-	3	9256

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Maharashtra	-	3	6417
	Goa	-	-	4693
13.	North-East			
	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	3059
	Manipur	-	-	2722
	Meghalaya	-	-	1791
	Mizoram	-	-	1791
	Nagaland	-	-	4065
	Tripura	-	-	3933
14.	Orissa	-	-	3922
15.	Punjab	1	3	5190
	Chandigarh	-		12814
16.	Rajasthan	-	6	4276
17.	Tamil Nadu	-	3	4583
	Pondicherry	-	-	7894
18.	Uttar Pradesh	-	3	6942
19.	West Bengal	-	3	8030
	Sikkim	-	-	2074
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	2866
	TOTAL	4	53	5517

Foreign Visits sponsored by IRCON

1922. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Construction Company Limited (IRCON) has sponsored foreign visits of private individuals involving out-go of foreign exchange, including payments of their air passage;

(b) if so, the details therof, including circumstances under which these visits were sponsored;

(c) whether the Governnment have also recieved complaints about financial and administrative irrregularities in IRCON;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Interest Free Loans

1923. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any scheme to provide interest free loans for self-employment to these unemployed who have not got any job even after passing of 5 years of getting themselves registered with the Employment Exchanges; and

(b) if so, the number of such unemployed youth who have been given loans till November, 1996, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Complaints against Western Railway Authorities

1924. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recieved any complaints against Western Railway authorities regarding charges of violation of Railway rules pertaining to the recruitment/promotion/posting and allotment of accomodation to the persons belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Western Railway administration have received representations-cum-complaints from employees including Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes(SC/STs) regarding clarification on promotional policy arising out of various judgements passed by the Central Administrative Tribunals(CAT). Based on the facts and as per extant rules the representations/complaints have been disposed of and in some cases the position have been clarified to the